“Procurement Technical Assistance Program”

Presented by Andy Alexander, Nebraska PTAC Program Director
on 6 May 2014 during the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME)
Omaha Post Industry Day, held at the Embassy Suites, 555 South 10th Street, Omaha, NE
“I am here today to update you on 3 programs available to your business.”

I. Procurement Technical Assistance Program

II. Vets First Contracting Program

III. VA Verification Program
Procurement Technical Assistance Program

- **Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs)** serve as a resource for businesses pursuing and performing under government contracts, including contracts with the Department of Defense, other federal agencies, state and local governments and with government prime contractors.

- PTACs are **hosted** by organizations such as universities and local chambers of commerce. The training and assistance provided by the PTACs is usually free of charge. The PTACs are **funded** through cost sharing cooperative agreements between Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and eligible program participants, including states, local governments, nonprofit organizations, economic enterprises and tribal organizations.

- PTAC **support** to businesses includes registration in systems such as the System for Award Management (SAM), identification of contract opportunities, help in understanding requirements and in preparing and submitting bids.

- More about **finding** a PTAC Counselor for your business can be found nationally at [http://www.dla.mil/SmallBusiness/Pages/ptac.aspx](http://www.dla.mil/SmallBusiness/Pages/ptac.aspx) or here in Nebraska at [http://nbdc.unomaha.edu/government-contracting/consultants.cfm](http://nbdc.unomaha.edu/government-contracting/consultants.cfm).
Vets First Contracting Program

**Vets First Contracting Program:** The Vets First Contracting Program within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) was created under Public Law, P.L. 109-461. This contracting program was created for Veteran-Owned Small Businesses and expanded the Service-Disabled Veteran contracting program for VA procurements. The Public Law was implemented in two regulations published in the Federal Register:

- **38 CFR** Parts 802, 804, 808, 809, 810, 813, 815, 817, 819, 828, and 852 Supporting Veteran-Owned and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses were amended on December 8, 2009, to implement changes to the **VA Acquisition Regulation**. This regulation defines the acquisition rules for the program with VA.

- **38 CFR Part 74** Veterans Small Business Regulations was published on February 8, 2010, and clarified on January 19, 2011. This regulation defines the requirements for verification as a Veteran-Owned Small Business or a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business.

- The **purpose** is to ensure that legitimately owned and controlled Veteran and SDVOSB are able to compete for VA VOSB and SDVOSB set-asides; to be credited by VA’s large prime contractors for subcontract plan achievements and to participate in VA’s VOSB Mentor-Protégé Program.

More information can be found at: [http://www.va.gov/osdbu/faqs/109461.asp#q001](http://www.va.gov/osdbu/faqs/109461.asp#q001)
VA Verification Program: The Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) protects the integrity and validity of VA’s Veterans First Contracting Program by conducting a Risk Mitigation Program. This program helps ensures only eligible firms who meet the criteria of 38 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 74 are entered into the Vendor Information Pages (VIP) database. Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) and Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB) listed in VIP are part of an elite group and CVE protects the Veteran advantage by making sure these companies remain eligible for the Veterans First Program by performing Pre- and Post-Verification Site Visits.

VA Certified Verification Counselors: The Verification Counseling Program provides education, assistance, and certification to Verification Assistance Partners through Verification Counselor Training. Verification Assistance Partners are then equipped to provide Verification counseling to applicants. These counselors can be found at http://www.va.gov/osdbu/verification/assistance/counselors.asp then by clicking on the applicable state (i.e. “NE” for Nebraska, or “IA” for Iowa)

Veterans in Nebraska at http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/factsheets/ss_nebraska.pdf : 147,928

Veteran Owned Businesses in Nebraska at http://www.census.gov/ : 15,933 (11%)

Veteran Owned Businesses in Nebraska that have self verified that they are a VOB/SDVOB on www.sam.gov : 224 (1%)

Veteran Owned Businesses in Nebraska verified by the CVE as a VOB/SDBOV at http://www.vetbiz.gov/ : 33 (15%)
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